



Sample Press Release

Rep. _____ cosponsors Pledge Protection Act

Legislation removes lower courts' jurisdiction regarding the Pledge of Allegiance

Washington—Rep. _____ cosponsored the Pledge Protection Act of 2002 today, a bill that will prevent federal appellate courts from ruling on the constitutionality of the Pledge of Allegiance. The authority of Congress to regulate the jurisdiction of federal courts is provided in Article III of the US Constitution.

“Congress has the ability to rein in a renegade judiciary,” said Rep. “It is a tool not often used, yet the egregious decision by the Ninth Circuit Court calls for its use now.

“The decision that the Pledge of Allegiance is unconstitutional reflects a misinterpretation of our Constitution,” said Rep. _____. “Belief in a Creator was central to the ideas upon which our nation was founded. To suggest that listening to the Pledge of Allegiance harms any child is absurd. To block schools from allowing the pledge adds arrogance to the absurdity.”

“This bill will do more than merely resolve the controversy over the pledge,” said Rep. _____. “It will address a dangerous trend: a judiciary that too often confuses the freedom of religion with freedom from religion.”

The Pledge Protection Act states: “No court established by Act of Congress shall have jurisdiction to hear or determine any claim that the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, as set forth in section 4 of title 4, violates the first article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States.”

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